



Department of Justice

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FUGITIVE SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE AND FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR TRIAL

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - James Richard Lake, 61, of Houston, Tex., was sentenced to 135 months in prison late yesterday by U.S. District Chief Judge Richard L. Young, following his guilty plea to possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute and failure to appear for trial, announced Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. The case was the result of a investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives and the Indiana State Police.

Lake was initially indicted on January 29, 2003, by a federal grand jury, following an October 19, 2002, traffic stop in Daviess County, Ind. During a search of Lake and his pickup truck, law enforcement officers located over 500 grams of methamphetamine, as well as smaller quantities of cocaine, marijuana and prescription pills. Also located between the driver's seat and the front seat console was a loaded Kimber Arms .45 caliber handgun.

After being charged in federal court with drugs and weapons offenses arising from the October 19th traffic stop, Lake was released awaiting trial. Lake failed to appear for a January 5, 2004, trial date, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. The defendant was later apprehended by the United States Marshals in Houston, Tex. on August 26, 2009.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew P. Brookman, who prosecuted the case for the government, Chief Judge Young also imposed five years supervised release following Lake's release from prison.

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